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LETTER DATED 24 JUNE 1998 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

Upon instructions from my Government, I have the honour to bring to your attention the following instances of violations by Iraq of the terms of the ceasefire between the two countries.

1. On 23 March 1997, 37 Iraqi motor boats, carrying 97 individuals, were observed patrolling on Armand River.

2. On 10 April 1997, at 1000 hours, six Iraqi loaders and cranes were observed constructing Om-Al-Rassas road at the geographic coordinates of 39R TP 2360069600 on the map of Khoram-Shahr, across from Minoo Island.

3. On 14 April 1997, Iraqi personnel set up five group tents around the geographic coordinates of 38S NC 4800050000, on the map of Sumar, west of border pillars 44/3, 44/4 and 44/5.

4. On 20 April 1997, at 1413 hours, four Iraqi personnel were observed across from the Naft-Shahr area.

5. On 20 April 1997, at 1510 hours, an explosion was heard from inside Iraqi territory, opposite Shohada hill (Meimak).

6. On 20 April 1997, at 1815 hours, one Iraqi helicopter was observed flying at low altitude from Faw towards Bassra at the geographic coordinates of 39R TP 5300023000 on the map of Khosro-Abad, south of Majaeinin River, opposite Aboo-Shanak of Iran, in the no-man's land.

7. On 21 April 1997, one Iraqi loader was observed in operation opposite the Khoram-Shahr border area.

8. On 22 April 1997, at 0720 hours, a number of Iraqi personnel were observed repairing and maintaining 10 tanks and personnel carriers at the geographic coordinates of 38S ND 3400009000 on the map of Khosravi, west of the Iraqi Al-Meghdad sentry post, south-west of border pillar 55/1.

9. On 22 April 1997, at 1130 hours, one Iraqi crane and two vehicles, along with five personnel, were observed repairing electric poles, across from the Sumar area, in the no-man's land.

10. On 23 April 1997, at 1500 hours, Iraqi personnel deployed one tank at their coastal post and, on 24 April 1997, at 0230 hours, one Iraqi boat dropped a number of personnel at the said post. They fired 10 shots in the direction of embankments.

11. On 24 April 1997, at 1120 hours, sporadic shootings by Iraqi soldiers were heard for 10 minutes from behind the Shohada hill (Meimak) at the geographic coordinates of 38S NC 8320019300 on the map of Halaleh, in the no-man's land, west of border pillar 35/8.

12. On 24 April 1997, at 1530 hours, one Iraqi helicopter was observed flying over Hessaria village at the geographic coordinates of 38S ND 6400056000 on the map of Chafta, north of border pillar 62/6, which left the area after a few minutes in the direction of Iraqi territory.

13. On 24 April 1997, at 1820 hours, one Iraqi vehicle, carrying one 14.5 mm anti-aircraft gun, was observed moving from Faw to Bassra at the geographic coordinates of 39R TP 4700035000 on the map of Khosro-Abad, across from Abadan Island, north of Manaril Al-Ghibani, in the no-man's land.

14. On 26 April 1997, at 1530 hours, four Iraqi senior officers visited the Iraqi Mondaria sentry post at the geographic coordinates of ND 410005000 on the map of Khosravi.

15. On 26 April 1997, at 2350 hours, several loud explosions were heard at the geographic coordinates of 39R TQ 1600031000 on the map of Hosseinieh, in the no-man's land, north of border pillar 10 and south of border pillar 11.

16. On 27 April 1997, at 1700 hours, an Iraqi loader and white Toyota were observed excavating along the Talkhab River in the Halaleh area.

17. On 29 April 1997, at 1730 hours, one Toyota with five occupants left the Al-Karama sentry post towards the Iraqi first base and returned after 20 minutes.

18. On 1 May 1997, at 0830 hours, the Iraqi troops constructed a stronghold at the geographic coordinates of 38S NC 5800031000 on the map of Kani-Sheikh, south of the Iraqi Al-Abas sentry post, west of border pillar 39/7.

19. On 1 May 1997, at 1000 hours, Iraqi troops based at the Chalani sentry post at the geographic coordinates of NC 4300065000 on the map of Naft-Shahr changed the post's flag.

20. On 1 May 1997, engineering activities by Iraqi troops on the Om-Al-Rassas road continued at the geographic coordinates of 39R TP 5300026000 on the map of Khosro-Abad, in the no-man's land, north of Maamir River and south of Osman River, opposite Seyed Yossuf River and Seyed Shahab River of Iran.

21. On 7 May 1997, a number of Iraqi senior officers aboard two vehicles stopped at the Shalamcheh, border point zero, installed a fence and then left the area.

22. On 7 May 1997, at 1430 hours, 30 Iraqi tanks left the Malek-Shah area at the geographic coordinates of 39R NC 3300098000 on the map of Khosravi and arrived at the Abdollah village garrison located at the geographic coordinates of 38S NC 3400096000 on the map of Khosravi, 4 kilometres to the south of Khaneghein.

23. On 8 May 1997, at 0900 hours, one Iraqi helicopter was observed flying over the Bassra area near the Arvand River.

24. On 8 May 1997, at 1630 hours, the Iraqi troops installed a dush-k machine-gun at the geographic coordinates of 39R TP 1500096000 on the map of Nim-Eistgah-Navad, in the no-man's land, north of border pillar 7/9 and south of border pillar 7/10.

25. On 8 May 1997, an Iraqi mechanical shovel was observed operating at the geographic coordinates of 39R TP 53000261000 on the map of Khosro-Abad, in the no-man's land, north of Maamir River and south of Osman River, across from Seyed Yossuf River and Seyed Shahab River of Iran.

26. On 10 May 1997, at 2000 hours, two Iraqi tugboats surrounded one Iranian private launch belonging to Mr. Faisal Hajavi at the entrance of the Armand River. The Iraqi forces intercepted the launch, looted its cargo and food and then left the area.

27. On 12 May 1997, at 0950 hours, a number of Iraqi personnel were observed operating one mechanical shovel and two heavy vehicles at the geographic coordinates of 38R QV 5500074000 on the map of south of Hoor at-Hovaizeh, in the no-man's land, south of border pillar 14B.

28. On 13 May 1997, at 1030 hours, two Iraqi loaders, one truck, two water tanks and one patrol vehicle were observed moving from the Ghalavand sentry post area at the geographic coordinates of 38R NC 4700082000 on the map of Sizda, west of border pillar 46/5, across from Chaghahaman and Chavarbakh of Iraq towards Naft-Khaneh.

29. On 16 May 1997, at 0010 hours, occupants of a vehicle at the geographic coordinates of 38S ND 6400030000 on the map of Ghasr-Shirin, west of border pillar 66/6 started firing at the Bishegan observation post for 10 minutes. After a reaction by the Iranian border guard, they fled in direction of the Sarghiril village at the geographic coordinates of 38S ND 6300031000 on the map of Ghasr-Shirin, north-west of border pillar 60/7.

30. On 16 May 1997, at 1330 hours, 10 Iraqi tanks, each carrying seven individuals, and two patrol vehicles were observed at the geographic coordinates of 38S NC 3440059000 on the map of Naft-Shahr-Jonoobi, west of border pillar 46. They left the area after 20 minutes.

31. On 16 May 1997, movements of Iraqi vehicles, with military and civilian occupants, were observed surveying the area at the geographic coordinates 39R TP 3900056000 on the map of Abadan, in the no-man's land, in the Ziadieh area.

32. On 18 May 1997, at 0730 hours, one Iraqi grader was observed destructing strongholds around the Iraqi Al-Ghatiba sentry post at the geographic coordinates of 39R ND 4700021000 on the map of Ghasr-e-Shirin, west of border pillar 57/10, in the no-man's land.

33. On 18 May 1997, at 0830 hours, three Iraqi tanks left the garrison located west of Abdollah village at the geographic coordinates of 38S ND 3400096000 on the map of Khosravi, and were deployed around the geographic coordinates of 38S ND 3400095000 on the map of Khosravi, south of the garrison.

34. On 18 May 1997, five elements of a small group of Kurdish mercenaries, which is supported by the Government of Iraq, headed by Karim Alootati, infiltrated Iranian territory and entered a border village in Baneh district. They summoned and surrounded the villagers and resorted to extortion under threat of death.

35. On 19 May 1997, at 2324 hours, a number of Iraqi personnel fired two illuminating shots across the Sumar area.

36. On 21 May 1997, at 0800 hours, the Iraqi troops constructed a new observation post at the geographic coordinates of 38S NC 489000504000 on the map of Sumar, west of border pillars 44/3, 44/4 and 44/5.

37. On 22 May 1997, at 2100 hours, Iraqi troops based at Al-Abass sentry post, located at 2500 m of the border at the geographic coordinates of 38S NC 3170058900 on the map of Kani-Sheikh, fired 15 rounds of shots in the direction of the Kani-Sheikh sentry post of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

38. On 22 May 1997, one Iranian vessel registered under the name of Oqhab, No. 15944, carrying stone to Kuwait, came under fire from an Iraqi tugboat with five military personnel and equipped with a machine-gun in the area between Khor Abdollah and Al-Omaeih platform at 1500 to 1600 hours and was forcefully seized.

39. On 24 May 1997, at 0855 hours, one Iraqi helicopter was observed flying from Faw towards Bassra.

40. On 25 May 1997, at 1015 hours, two Iraqi loaders and one truck were observed operating at the geographic coordinates of 39R TP 5300026000 on the map of Khosro-Abad, in the no-man's land, north of Maamir River and south of Osman River, across from Seyed Yossuf River and Seyed Shahab River of Iran.

41. On 27 May 1997, eight Iraqi tanks were observed moving at a distance of one kilometre from the military garrison located at the geographic coordinates of 38S NC 3400096000 on the map of Khosravi.

It would be highly appreciated if this letter were circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Hadi NEJAD-HOSSEINIAN
Ambassador
Permanent Representative